

BLONDIE



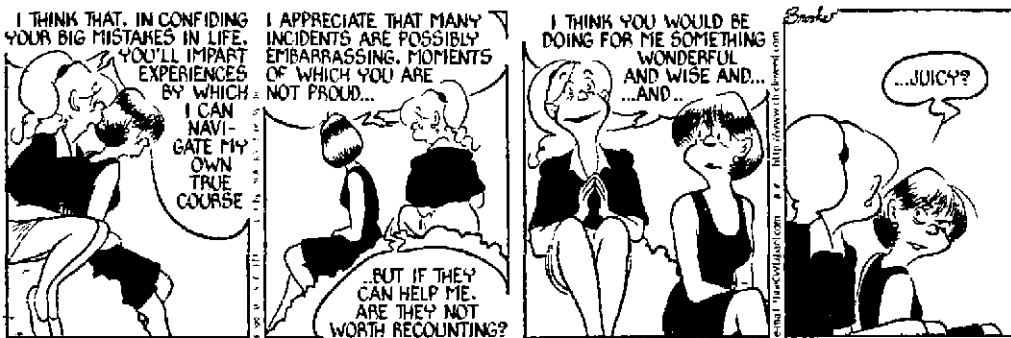
SALLY FORTH



THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN



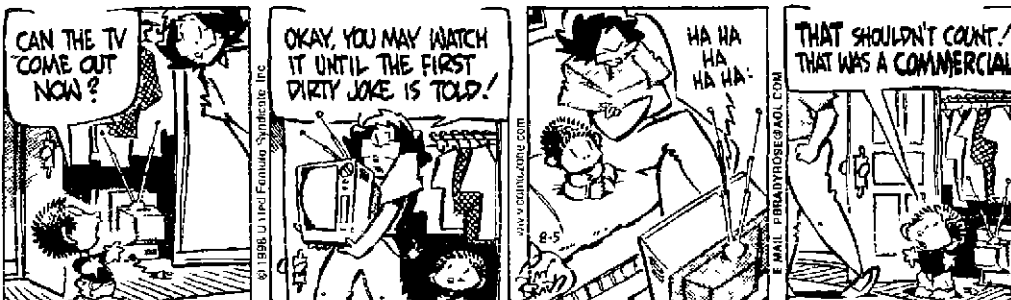
9 CHICKWEED LANE



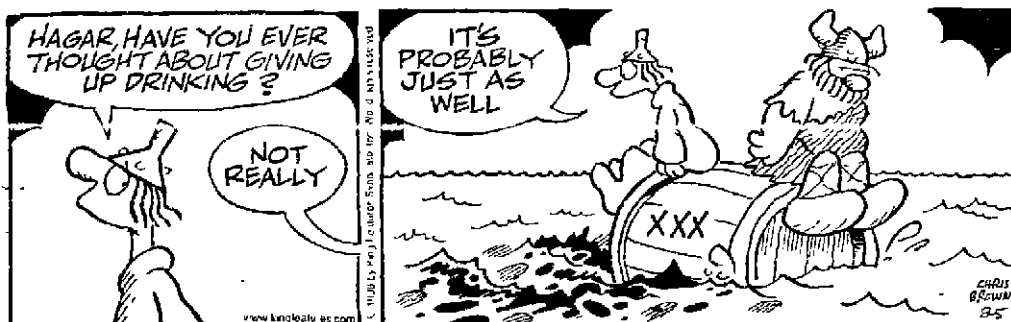
ANDY CAPP



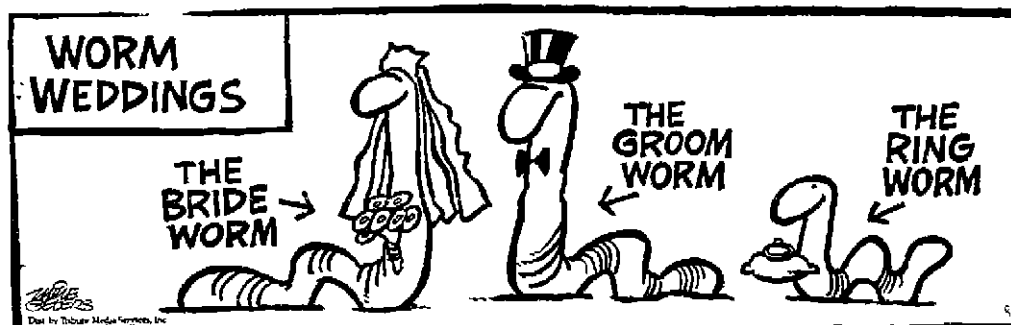
ROSE IS ROSE



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



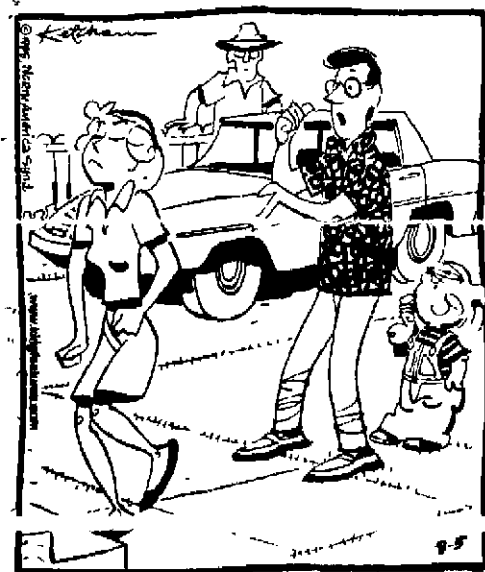
MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM



DILBERT



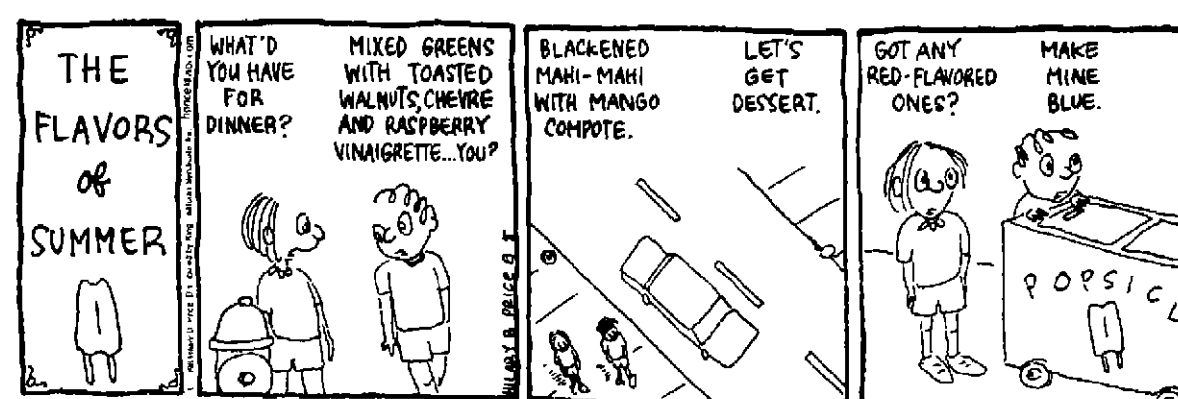
DENNIS THE MENACE



FAMILY CIRCUS



RHYMES WITH ORANGE



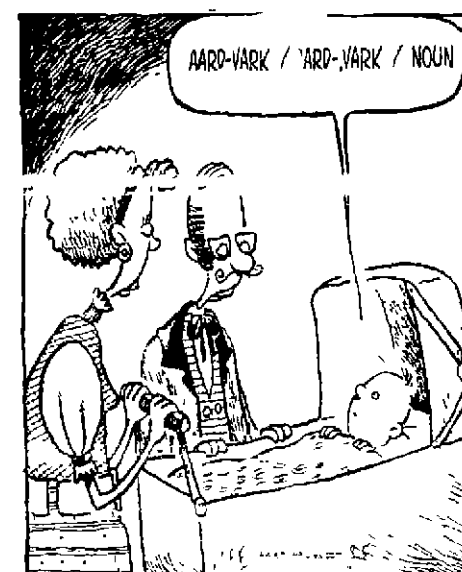
RALPH



Today's Birthdays

Former astronaut Neil A. Armstrong is 68. Country singer Vern Gosdin is 64. Actor John Smear is 39. Actress Tawney Kitaen is 37. Country musician Pat O'Connor is 37. Rapper MCA (The Beastie Boys) is 34. Actor Jonathan Silverman is 32. Country singer Terri Clark is 30. Actor Brendon Ryan Barrett ("Soul Man") is 12.

I NEED HELP



Noah Webster says his first word.

SCRABBLE

T I D A E R I G Z Y 2nd Letter Triple
 R R S O A M T Triple Word Score
 H W D E L A R
 F E Y R R A A
 PAR SCORE 140-150
 by JUDD
 DIRECTIONS: Make a 2 to 7 letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word using scoring directions at right. 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All Judd's words are in The Official Scrabble Players Dictionary (Merrill Webster) and OGSW Official Scrabble Words (Chambers). JUDD'S SOLUTION TOMORROW 8-5-98 © 1998 United Feature Syndicate Inc.

FOUR RACK TOTAL
 TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

For solution see Classified

WORD SLEUTH

Words of taste

U B X U Q N J G D Z W T O G N
 K H D A X U R P M J G D A N X
 V S O N K I F D Y A X V T I Q
 O M J H F A F T E R T A S T E
 C A Y W U R I P N R E T T I B
 N L J P H U F D A E B P Z B X
 S V T Y R Y R N Y Q G O P M K
 I W Y F C A C H M F D N R E B
 Z Y E R W I H I M V T R U O P
 O N L E D O P S U K I H O P F
 D C A Y T L A S Y J Z X S W V

Tuesday's unlisted clue HORSE

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

Wednesday's unlisted clue hint THE TASTE OF CANDY

Aftertaste Fruity Pungent Sour
 Biting Hot Rancid Spicy
 Bitter Juicy Salty Yummy
 Dry Peppery Sharp

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For solution see Classified.

ACES ON BRIDGE

By Bobby Wolff

After East opens the bidding in today's deal, even a novice declarer will know the club ace is part of East's opening bid. However, that knowledge is not enough. Only an experienced player will put his knowledge to good use. In a typical game, East covers West's heart queen with his king, and South wins his ace. Faced with the loss of two hearts and a trick in each minor, South sees that his best chance for success is to establish dummy's clubs for two diamond discards. To ensure future trump entries to dummy's clubs, South leads a club to dummy at trick two. What should he play from dummy? If he plays an honor, East wins, cashes his two high hearts and switches to the diamond king. South wins in dummy but runs into trouble when the clubs break 5-2. He enjoys only one diamond discard, and the game goes one down. An experienced player plays low from dummy on the first club lead.

East wins the jack, cashes two hearts and attacks dummy's diamond ace, but South is safe. He leads a low club from dummy to ruff out East's ace, and now it's an easy matter to draw trumps, ending in dummy. He discards two diamonds on the K-Q of clubs and claims game and rubber. What if East had three or four clubs including the ace? It wouldn't matter. When no ace appears on the first club ruff, South cashes the ace and 10 of trumps and leads dummy's club king for a ruffing finesse. This establishes the clubs (unless East has five), and South still has his 10 winners.

NORTH 08-05-A
 ♠ Q 10 9
 ♥ 7 4 3
 ♦ A 6
 ♣ K Q 8 7 3

WEST EAST
 ♠ 2 ♠ 6 4 3
 ♥ Q 8 ♥ K J 10 9 5
 ♦ 8 5 4 3 2 ♦ K Q 9
 ♣ 10 9 6 5 2 ♣ A J

Vulnerable North-South
Dealer East

The bidding

East South West North
 1♥ 1♠ Pass 2♥
 Pass 3♠ Pass 4♠
 Pass Pass Pass
 *asks for definition

Opening lead Heart queen

N.Y. TIMES CROSSWORD

No. 0624

ACROSS

- 1 Liberal follower
- 5 Help with the dishes
- 9 Frontier dwelling
- 14 Oratory
- 15 The old sod
- 16 Small type
- 17 Ironed?
- 19 Brewing need
- 20 U.F.O. crew
- 21 Hoodwink
- 23 Barrel parts
- 25 Lightweight hat
- 29 Back biter
- 31 Wacky
- 33 Fastidious
- 36 Wrinkled?
- 38 Nile slitherer
- 39 Ann and May

DOWN

- 40 Noted twin
- 41 Extinguished?
- 44 X-rated
- 46 Nonpointed end
- 47 Stable worker
- 49 It's often heard during storms
- 51 Baroque
- 54 Presuming that
- 56 Neighbor of Namibia
- 58 Provide funding for
- 62 Renounced?
- 64 Miss America topper
- 65 Bibliography abbr.
- 66 Hawaiian honker
- 67 Westminster, for one

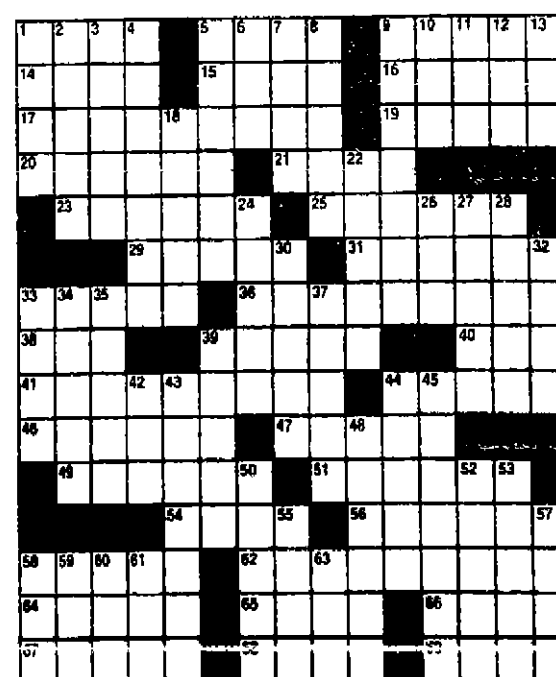
Bank (on)

Those muchachos

DOWN

- 1 Time ——— nari
- 2 Holders of many frames
- 3 Implied
- 4 Fords are made here
- 5 Pop goer
- 6 Taxing letters
- 7 Pinto
- 8 Become, finally
- 9 ——— pepper
- 10 The time of one's life?
- 11 Flock sound
- 12 Part of T.G.I.F.
- 13 New Jersey pro
- 18 Representative
- 22 Skating event
- 24 Peace Nobelists of 1978

OLDS COLIC TACK
 DART AFAC ELHI
 DRESSBLUES RIAL
 SKA LIAR SMELT
 MOUNTAINPINKS
 CHINESE SEAN
 POETS AIRRIELE
 ASS ALLTO LEH
 OTTHOMAS FRITZ
 OMEN AGRIETTO
 OLDS COLIC TACK
 DART AFAC ELHI
 DRESSBLUES RIAL
 SKA LIAR SMELT
 MOUNTAINPINKS
 CHINESE SEAN
 POETS AIRRIELE
 ASS ALLTO LEH
 OTTHOMAS FRITZ
 OMEN AGRIETTO



Puzzle by Richard Silverstein

20 O'Donnell of "Mad Love"
 21 Book before Jeremiah: Abbr.
 22 Brief vacation
 23 Italian lady
 24 John Lennon song
 25 Beverage in a jug
 26 Parts of "complete works"
 27 "Maria ——" (1941 hit)
 28 Bash
 29 Citrus quaffs
 30 Hellenic vowel
 31 Pen point
 32 Smidgen
 33 Comstock output
 34 Old White House nickname

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